



US Army Corps
of Engineers
Wilmington District

September 3, 2002

FOR RELEASE: IMMEDIATELY

Corps begins maintenance dredging at Oregon Inlet

Bodie Island, NC—US Army Corps of Engineers, Wilmington District's maintenance dredging of the Manteo (Shallowbag) Bay, Oregon Inlet Channel began on September 1, 2002. During the dredging operation, about 1,200 feet at the south end of Bodie Island Spit on the Cape Hatteras National Seashore will be closed. Great Lake Dredge and Dock Company, contractor for the dredging project, will be erecting a construction fence to designate the work area.

The dredge NORTHERLY ISLAND will undertake the first part of the project, pumping about 150,000 cubic yards of material to the near shore area of Pea Island. The dredge TEXAS will arrive about September 16th, and will pump sand to the beach of Pea Island. The dredging will remove about 817,000 cubic yards of dredging from the 400-foot channel.

The dredging will require a floating pipeline. Boaters should exercise caution and stay clear of all pipelines, buoys, and the dredge. **Anyone unsure how to safely navigate around the dredging operation may call the Great Lakes Dredge and Dock dredge crews on VHF-FM Marine Band Radio Channel 13 or 16.**

Dredging should be completed by mid-November unless delayed by weather conditions. The southern end of Bodie Island will reopen after the work is complete.

For more information call Penny Schmitt, Chief of Public Affairs, at (910) 251-4626.